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# Advocate of Peace.

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CONTENTS.	PAGE
EDITORIALS .....	181-187
Robert Treat Paine—The Stockholm Peace Congress—United States-Canadian Peace Centenary.	
EDITORIAL NOTES .....	187-189
The Pan-American Conference—The Interparliamentary Union—The Religious Liberals on Peace—Woman and the Peace Question.	
NOTES ON THE STOCKHOLM CONGRESS .....	189
NEWS FROM THE FIELD.....	189
BREVITIES .....	189-190
GENERAL ARTICLES:	
The Interest of the Swedish Government in the Peace Movement. <i>Count Arvid Taube</i> .....	190-191
Response for the Delegates to the Stockholm Peace Congress. <i>Senator Henri La Fontaine</i> .....	191-192
The Events of the Year as Related to War and Peace. <i>Dr. A. Gobat</i> .....	192-193
International Federation. <i>Joseph G. Alexander</i> .....	194-196
Sweden and the Peace Movement. <i>Arvid Grundel</i> .....	196-197
Peace Work in Japan and Korea. <i>Rev. Gilbert Bowles</i> .....	197
Field Secretary's Report for July and August. <i>Charles E. Beals</i> .....	197-198
What America Might Do for Peace. <i>William Jennings Bryan</i> .....	198-199
The Sixth International Esperanto Congress. <i>Stella V. Kellerman</i> .....	199-200
NEW BOOKS .....	200
International Arbitration and Peace Lecture Bureau .....	201

## Robert Treat Paine.

It is with great sorrow that we have to record the death, on August 11, of our beloved and honored president, Robert Treat Paine. He had been in broken health for a year, and his departure was not unexpected, but his death, when it came, brought a deep and painful sense of loss to all of us who had known him intimately and been closely associated with him in work.

Philanthropist, in the original and fundamental sense of the word, describes Mr. Paine's character and work as well as any one word can be made to sum up a life so varied and full. He loved mankind and consecrated himself and his wealth warmly and generously to helping his fellowmen, especially the working classes and those who, from misfortune, needed temporary assistance. His philanthropy was large-hearted, whole-hearted, generous, timely; but it was also intelligent and discriminating. He tried always to help people so as not to pauperize them, but to stimulate and encourage them to help themselves.

In his line of philanthropic service he had few, if any, equals in New England, or indeed in the whole land.

The story of the leading part which he took in the rebuilding of Trinity Church after the great Boston fire, and of his generous and loyal support of all its Christian work; of his founding and development of the Wells Memorial Institute for Workingmen; of the People's Institute in Roxbury and of the Workingmen's Loan Association; of the prominent part which he took in the creation of the Associated Charities of Boston, of which he was president for over thirty years; of the creation, with the coöperation of Mrs. Paine, of the Robert Treat Paine Benevolent Association, which they endowed with \$200,000; of his gifts to Harvard University for fellowships and scholarships; and his various charitable services to the poor in times of special emergencies—is a conspicuous part of the best humane history of Boston for the past forty years.

It was because of Mr. Paine's philanthropic character and work and of his high standing as a citizen that he was chosen president of the American Peace Society in 1891. He was elected to this position while he was abroad in Europe. The choice came as an entire surprise to him, and he accepted it with reluctance because his hands were full of other interests and because of his inexperience in peace work.

But once in the service, his interest grew from the start, and in recent years the subject was very much on his mind and heart. He was one of the first members of the Mohonk Arbitration Conference when it was started in 1895, and took prominent part in nearly all of the meetings held by Mr. Smiley in that famous place, until the past year, when his health did not permit him to be present. In 1893 he presided over one of the sessions of the fifth International Peace Congress at Chicago during the Columbian Exposition, and he was instrumental in having presented to that Congress a plan for a permanent international tribunal prepared by three eminent jurists of New York City. He visited the State Department and the President at Washington several times, either alone or with others, in the interests of arbitration, and it was largely due to his suggestions and representations that the negotiations for an Anglo-American arbitration treaty were first opened by Secretary Gresham. Mr. Paine was president of the thirteenth International Peace Congress at Boston in 1904. He spent much of the summer of 1907 at The Hague in